

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 40

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sarah Moore Greene of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Sarah Moore Greene; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Moore Greene was an exemplary public servant who graced this earth for 102 years and enriched the lives of countless people of color in a multitude of ways; and

WHEREAS, born in Madisonville in Monroe County in 1910, Sarah Greene was the daughter of Ike Moore, a freed slave, and Mary Toomey, a cook for railroad workers who died when she was only five years old. Mr. Moore instilled in his children incredibly strong family values and respect for the dignity of human life; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Moore Greene attended Tennessee A&I in Nashville, now known as Tennessee State University. She began her career as an educator teaching students in a one-room school in Shady Grove in Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Greene started her own kindergarten in the 1940s, and she operated the Sarah Moore Greene Kiddy Kollege at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Knoxville for the next two decades; and

WHEREAS, one of Tennessee's most stalwart citizens, Sarah Moore Greene knew and loved history and passed her love on to subsequent generations as she worked steadfastly in the local and state affiliates of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and a number of other civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Greene was the first black member of Ebenezer Baptist Church and of the Knoxville Board of Education, and served as a party delegate to the National Republican Convention; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Greene was proud to have the opportunity to cross party lines and vote for Barack Obama, the nation's first black president; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Moore Greene leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Sarah Moore Greene, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and friends of Ms. Greene.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.